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ARTICLES OF FAITH

AND

COVENANT,

REVISED AND ADOPTED

BY THE

Congregational Church,

IN

MATTAPOISETT, MASS.

APRIL, 1858.



NEW BEDFORD:

EVENING STANDAEAD STEAM PRESS.

1858.



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The "SECOND CHURCH IN ROCHESTER," now the Congregational Church in Mattapoisett, was organized in July, 1736, and has therefore been in existence one hundred and twenty-two years. The original members were dismissed from the "Church of Christ in Rochester," then under the pastoral care of the Rev. Timothy Rugles, and were in number, sixteen as follows: Moses Barlow, John Hammond, Thomas Dexter, Nathan Hammond, Thomas Clark, Jabez Hammond, Benj. Hammond, Jr., Constant Dexter, Samuel Dexter; Mary Hammond, Hannah Dexter, Mary Bowles, Lydia Bowles, Priscilla Hammond, Alice Clark, Thamsen Tarden.

The Pastors of the Church from its organization have been as follows:

Rev. Ivory Hovey, ordained 1740, dismissed 1768.

Rev. Lemuel LeBaron, ordained 1772, deceased 1836, in the 90th year of his age and 65th of his ministry.

Rev. Asahel Cobb, ordained colleague 1826, dismissed 1830.

Rev. Thomas Robbins, D D., ordained colleague 1832, dismissed 1844.

Rev. Isaiah C. Thacher, ordained 1844, dismissed 1849.

Rev. Wm. L. Mather, ordained 1851, dismissed 1855.

Rev. Charles Livingston, installed 1856, left 1857.

Rev. William L. Parsons, called 1858.

The Deacons of the Church have been:

Joseph Barlow, chosen 1742	Thomas Tobey, chosen 1791
Nathan Tupper, " 1742	Isaac Bowles, " 1807
Constant Dexter, chosen " a few years after."	Nathan Cannon, " 1821
Ezekiel Clark, chosen 1757	A. B. Hammond, " 1825
Timothy West, " 1781	Nathan'l A. Crosby, " 1829
Elisha Shearman, " 1791	James Cannon, " 1858

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1st. You believe in the existence of one God ; Father, Son and Holy Ghost ; who is infinite, eternal, and unchangeable, in His being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness and truth.

Deut. 6: 4 ; Matt. 28: 19 ; 2 Cor. 13: 14 ; 1 Pet. 1: 2 ; John 1: 1, 3, 14 ; Heb. 1: 3, 8, 10 ; John 20: 28.

2d. You believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament were given by Divine Inspiration, and contain the only perfect rule of faith and practice.

2 Tim. 3: 16 ; 2 Pet. 1: 21 ; 1 Cor. 2: 13 ; Gal. 1: 8, 11, 12 ; Matt. 22: 29 ; Isa. 8: ; Rev. 22: 18, 19.

3d. You believe that man has fallen from the state in which he was originally created, and is by nature entirely destitute of holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.

Rom. 5: 12, 18, 19 ; 7: 8 ; 8: 7 ; 3: 9, 12 ; Eph. 2: 1, 3 ; Jno. 5: 42 ; 3: 3 ; Gen. 1: 26, 27 ; Eccl. 7: 29 ; Ps. 51: 5.

4th. You believe that an Atonement has been made by the Lord Jesus Christ, so that Repentance and Faith are now the conditions of salvation.

1 Tim. 1: 15 ; 2: 5 ; Luke 24: 46, 47 ; Matt. 26: 28 ; Rom. 3: 25 ; 5: 8 ; Heb. 9: 22 ; 1 Pet. 1: 18, 20 ; 1 Jno. 2: 2 ; Rev. 5: 9.

5th. You believe that none are qualified for the enjoyments and employments of heaven, until they are created anew by the agency of the Holy Spirit.

John 3: 3. Fully shown by the references above.

6th. You believe that those who are thus born again in Christ Jesus, will increase in holiness and persevere unto salvation ; that there will be a general Resurrection and a future Judgment ; and that the finally impenitent

will go away into everlasting punishment, and the righteous into life eternal. Thus you believe.

Prov. 4: 18; Phil. 1: 6; Rom. 8: 30, 38, 39; John 6: 39; 10: 27, 29; 1 John 2: 19; John 5: 28, 29; 1 Cor. 15: Acts 17: 31; 2 Cor. 5: 10; Matt. 25: 31, 33, 34, 41, 46; Rom. 14: 10, 12; Mark 3: 29; Matt. 26: 24.

COVENANT.

Acknowledging your infinite obligations to be the Lord's, you profess your desire, in sincerity of heart and with a deep sense of your unworthiness, to lay hold on His everlasting covenant.

You now publicly give yourself up to God, as your Father, your Redeemer, your Sanctifier. Depending on Divine Grace for assistance, you hereby solemnly bind yourself to glorify Him in Jesus Christ, by a faithful discharge of the duties of Sobriety, Righteousness and Godliness, and by a diligent observance of all His commandments and ordinances. You particularly engage to walk with this Church, watchfully avoiding whatever is opposed to purity, peace and love; and faithfully attending the Public Worship of the Sanctuary, the Sacraments of the New Testament, the needful Discipline of His Kingdom, and all the sacred Institutions of the Gospel; as becomes the followers of Christ. All this you do, relying on the blood of the everlasting covenant for the pardon of your sins, and beseeching the Glorious God to prepare and strengthen you to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight. Thus you believe and promise.

FORM OF ADMISSION.

Upon such promises and engagements, we, the members of this Church, now (rise to) receive you to our communion, and declare you entitled to all its privileges. We welcome you to fellowship with us in the blessings of the Gospel ; and, on our part, covenant to watch over you, and to seek your edification, so long as you continue among us.

And now, beloved in the Lord, be it ever remembered, that you have come under solemn obligations from which you cannot escape. Wherever you go, whatever external relations are changed, these vows will be upon you ; they will follow you to His bar, and abide with your soul forever. May the Lord guide and sustain you ; the Lord bless you and keep you ; the Lord make His face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you ; the Lord lift His countenance upon you, and give you peace. Amen.

TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP.

By a standing regulation, all persons are expected to present their letters of recommendation from sister Churches, when they have communed with us for the term of one year. And members of this Church removing from the place are required to obtain a formal dismission within a year from the time of such removal.

CATALOGUE

OF THE PRESENT MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH.

Atsatt, John
 Atsatt, Laura
 Austin, Eunice B.
 Barstow, James
 Barstow, Wilson
 Buell, Edward
 Bacon, Benjamin
 Barstow, Nathan H.
 Beales, Charles
 Barstow, Rebecca
 Bowles, Catharine
 Bacon, Mary
 Barstow, Mary
 Briggs, Lois
 Beals, Martha C.
 Bowles, Sarah D.
 Bowles, William T.
 Brown, Adaline S.
 Bowles, Matilda J.
 Buell, Marietta
 Bowles, Sophia F.
 Buell, Clarissa
 Cannon, Eliakim
 Cannon, James
 Cannon, Watson,
 Cannon, David H.
 Cannon, Arvin
 Cannon, Mary
 Cannon, Deborah
 Cannon, Elizabeth L.
 Cannon, Sarah Ann
 Cannon, David H.
 Cannon, Minerva
 Cannon, Ettie H.
 Cannon, Susan C. B.
 Cannon, Susan
 Crosby, Nathan
 Crosby, Prentiss
 Crosby, Nathaniel A.
 Crosby, Mary H.
 Crosby, Sarah
 Crosby, Louisa
 Crosby, William K.
 Crosby, Jacob
 Crosby, Malvina
 Crosby, Lorena

Crosby, Lucy F.
 Clark, Nathaniel
 Clark, Susan M.
 Clark, Helen M.
 Coleman, James
 Coleman, Harriet N.
 Cathaway, Sarah
 Cross, Franklin
 Cross, Catharine L.
 Cowan, Jesse H.
 Cowan, Annie H.
 Dexter, Leonard
 Dexter, John
 Dexter, Mary S.
 Dexter, Susannah
 Dexter, Hannah J.
 Dexter, Cynthia
 Dexter, Mooers R.
 Dexter, Mary Ann
 Dexter, Mary A.
 Dexter, Martha M.
 Dexter, Rachel
 Davis, Mary E.
 Eaton, Susan M.
 Freeman, Seth
 Gorham, Jabez
 Gorham, Mercy
 Gorham, Albert H.
 Gelatt, Deborah
 Hammond, Amittai B.
 Hammond, Leonard
 Hammond, Rebecca
 Hammond, Lucinda
 Hammond, Nathaniel
 Hammond, Nathaniel H.
 Hammond, Joseph J.
 Hammond, Noah
 Hammond, John M.
 Hammond, Rebecca H.
 Hammond, Mary A.
 Hammond, Mary
 Hammond, Mary E.
 Hammond, Priscilla
 Harlow, Adaline
 Howland, Rowland
 Howland, Grace E.

Howland, Bathsheba
 Howland, Weston
 Howland, Rhoda E.
 Howes, Deborah
 Hamblin, Mary W.
 Hamblin, Mercy S.
 Handy, Phebe W.
 Harlow, Sylvia A.
 Holmes, Heman G.
 Hyer, Oliver W.
 Hall, Abner
 Hall, Anna
 Hall, Lidora
 Hathaway, Isaac B.
 Jones, Melintha
 Jones, Mary Angie
 Jenny, Elisha C.
 Jenny, Roxanna
 King, Matilda E.
 Landers, Thomas C.
 Landers, Nancy A.
 Lawson, Elias
 Lawson, Eleanor
 Lawson, Elizabeth A.
 LeBaron, Frederick
 LeBaron, Hattie W.
 LeBaron, Eliza
 Mayhew, Matthew
 Mayhew, Roby A.
 Matthews, Mary,
 Merithew, Silence
 Mayhew, Elizabeth
 Meigs, Sarah J.
 Meigs, Alice
 Mitchell, Lydia P.
 Parsons, Lucy A.
 Pope, Nancy P.
 Pierce, Henry N.
 Purrington, Mary
 Rogers, Judith
 Rogers, Mary
 Rogers, Sarah S.
 Robinson, Benjamin F.
 Rounseville, Phebe V.
 Randall, Drucilla
 Smith, Solomon

Smith, John
 Smith, Jane F.
 Sturtevant, Samuel Jr.
 Sturtevant, Noah C.
 Sturtevant, Hannah
 Sturtevant, Sophronia H.
 Sturtevant, Mary F.
 Sturtevant, Charles H.
 Sears, Sarah
 Sears, Isaiah
 Sears, Amelia B.
 Sears, Peter C.
 Snow, Stephen
 Snow, Anna
 Snow, Wyatt
 Snow, George D.
 Snow, Levi M.
 Snow, Emily F.
 Snow, Susan A.
 Snow, Abbie H.
 Snow, Sarah S.
 Southworth, Rhoda
 Shaw, Margaret
 Shaw, Thankful
 Shaw, Sarah
 Sandford, Edward C.
 Sparrow, Alice C.
 Taylor, Lucy C.
 Tinkham, James H.
 Tinkham, James W.
 Tinkham, Jane C.
 Taber, Laura A.
 Washburn, Ezra L.
 Washburn, Lucy B.
 White, Minerva
 Winston, Orsamus
 Winston, Lizzie R.
 Weed, Stephen
 Weed, Elizabeth
 Westgate, Mary B.
 Welch, John
 Welch, Martha
 Welch, Ardelia
 Willfong, Mary C.
 Young, Lois



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N. MANCHESTER,
INDIANA

